

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 055954
ORIGIN NODS-00

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:SSTEINER

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:SSTEINER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 055954

NODIS

FOR DR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM VIENTIANE MARCH 12:

QUOTE S E C R E T VIENTIANE 0498

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR LA US OVIP OREP SOPN

SUBJECT: VISIT OF PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION TO LAOS: BANGKOK STOPOVER

REF BANGKOK 5403

1. I ASSUME THAT PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION STOPOVER IN BANGKOK IS BEING MADE FOR GOOD AND SUFFICIENT REASONS BUT FEEL BOUND TO INFORM DEPARTMENT THAT IS EFFECT ON LPDR IS NOT GOING TO MAKE COMMISSION'S TASK HERE ANY EASIER.

2. PHOUNE SIPRASEUTH'S REPLY TO SECRETARY'S LETTER GIVES A GOOD IDEA OF LPDR STATE OF MIND. FACT THAT
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IT TOOK THEM SIXTEEN DAYS TO COME UP WITH REPLY IS ALSO SIGNIFICANT. THE LAO ARE TOUCHY EVEN ABOUT PLAYING SECOND FIDDLE TO THE VIETNAMESE, LET ALONE PLAYING THIRD FIDDLE AFTER BOTH VIETNAMESE AND THAI. THAI, OF COURSE, SHARE WITH U.S. THE ROLE OF ENEMY NUMBER ONE AS FAR AS THE LPDR IS CONCERNED. FINALLY, AS WE ARE REPORTING SEPTTEL, LPRP OFFICIAL PARTY ORGAN

SIENG PASASON, PUBLISHED TODAY, SAME DATE AS PHOUNE'S LETTER TO SECRETARY, AN EDITORIAL AND A CARTOON STRONGLY ATTACKING PRESIDENT CARTER.

3. I FURTHER NOTE THAT PHOUNE'S LETTER SPECIFICALLY ACCEPTS COMMISSION VISIT FOR PERIOD MARCH 19 TO MARCH 21 ALTHOUGH I HAD TOLD NOUPHAN ON FEBRUARY 25 THAT WE WERE PROPOSING MARCH 20 TO 21 FOR VISIT TO LAOS. I ASSUME THAT LPDR EXPECTS VISIT TO VIENTIANE TO FOLLOW DIRECTLY AFTER VISIT TO HANOI AND BANGKOK INTERLUDE IS GOING TO BE A BIG SURPRISE TO THEM. WHILE WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE THAT THE LAO WILL CANCEL THE TRIP WHEN THEY LEARN ABOUT THE BANGKOK STOPOVER, I AM PRETTY SURE THAT IT WILL GET THEIR HACKLES UP EVEN HIGHER THAN THEY ARE AS OF NOW.

4. RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT PASS THIS MESSAGE TO BANGKOK. CORCORAN UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CAT-B, PRESIDENTIAL MISSIONS, VISITS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: FOR DR BRZEZINSKI ONLY
Executive Order: GS
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Litigation History:
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